

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the instant application is respectfully requested. The present amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action of July 12, 2005, in which claims 1-18 are presently pending. Of those, claims 1 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 2-9 and 11-18 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, being dependent from claims 1 and 10, respectively.

With regard to the art of record, claims 1 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,770,484 to Kleinhenz. In addition, claims 4 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kleinhenz, in view of the publication entitled "Handbook of Plasma Processing Technology" by Rossmagel, et al. Claims 5 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kleinhenz, in view of the publication entitled "Silicon Processing for the VLSI Era, Volume 4: Deep-Submicron Process Technology" by Wolf.

Further, claims 6-8 and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kleinhenz, in view of Wolf, and further view of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2004/0147074 by Sell, et al. Finally, the Examiner has indicated that 2-3 and 11-12 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the §112 rejections thereto. For the following reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Independent claims 1 and 10 have been cancelled, while claims 2 and 11 have been rewritten in independent form, including deleting the term "desired," thereby overcoming the §112 rejections thereto. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2 and 11 are now in condition for allowance, and no further issues are raised by the

present amendment thereto. Claims 3 and 12, being dependent from claims 2 and 11, respectively, are in thus now condition for allowance in their present form. Finally, claims (4-5) and (13-14) are amended to depend from allowable independent claims 2 and 11, respectfully, thus also rendering the same allowable (as well as the additional claims dependent therefrom).

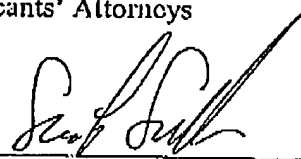
Since the present amendment raises no new issues, it is respectfully requested that the same be entered.

For the above stated reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. No new matter has been entered and no additional fees are believed to be required. However, if any fees are due with respect to this Amendment, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 09-0458 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,
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